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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the President of the Economic and Social Council on consultations held with the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

1. At its second regular session of 1990, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1990/60 of 26 July 1990 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In paragraph 15 of that resolution, the Council requested its President to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to report thereon to the Council.

2. At its forty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/18 of 20 November 1990, in paragraph 20 of which it requested the Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

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3. Taking into account the above-mentioned resolutions, the President is of the view that the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations should strengthen existing measures of support and formulate additional programmes of assistance to the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. As most of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories are islands, small in size and population, geographically isolated and vulnerable to natural disasters, such as hurricanes and cyclones, as well as relatively undeveloped economically, they are particularly dependent on external assistance. The specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional organizations, should therefore be invited to examine and review conditions in each of the Territories, in the light of the pressing need for increased transfer of resources, technology and know-how to the peoples concerned, and take appropriate measures to accelerate economic and social progress.

4. In accordance with the terms of Council resolution 1990/60, the President of the Council maintained close contact with the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee during the period under review and, on the basis of those contacts and in the light of related developments, submits to the Council the observations set out below, with a view to facilitating Council consideration of the present item.

5. During the year, members of the Council and the Special Committee followed closely the work of their respective bodies relating to the item. The President considers it both useful and essential that such contacts and cooperation continue to be maintained and strengthened to mobilize the maximum possible assistance to the peoples of the remaining Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

6. According to the information provided by specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as contained in the related report of the Secretary-General (A/46/229), during the period under review a number of specialized agencies and organizations have continued to extend assistance to the peoples of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, in response to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Council and the Special Committee. The report of the Secretary-General also indicates that an increasing number of organizations have extended or formulated such programmes of assistance from within their own budgetary resources, in addition to their respective contributions as executing agencies of projects funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the primary provider of assistance.

7. A number of assistance projects have continued to be funded by UNDP in close collaboration with other agencies and organizations of the United Nations system. The President of the Council notes that the fourth cycle (1987-1991) indicative planning figures (IPFs) established for some of those Territories include the following: Anguilla, $US 1,066,000; Bermuda, $694,000; British Virgin Islands, $239,000; Cayman Islands, $584,000; Montserrat, $676,000; St. Helena, $465,000; Tokelau, $1,151,000; Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, $2,912,000; and Turks and Caicos Islands, $753,000. These amounts cover assistance in the primary economic sectors, such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries industry, transportation, communication and power generation, as well as in the social and educational

sectors, and are being executed by a number of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in close cooperation, where appropriate, with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

8. The President of the Council draws attention to the extremely fragile economies of these small island Territories and stresses the continuing critical needs of their people. While noting with appreciation the increased assistance being rendered to those Territories, the President appeals to the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to focus their renewed attention on all Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to expand and increase their assistance programmes to them. The President of the Council is particularly mindful of the pressing need for external assistance of a number of dependent Territories for which no IPF had yet been established. The need for assistance to those Territories is extremely acute.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

9. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is at present in the process of executing four technical assistance projects in the South Pacific, favouring Tokelau and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, with the programmes concentrating mainly on root crops development, as well as on agricultural statistics, forestry and fisheries development.

10. As a result of a joint UNDP/FAO mission to Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat in 1988 to assess their agricultural sectors and identify priority projects, FAO has undertaken two technical assistance projects funded by UNDP in Montserrat in the fields of forestry development and rehabilitation of the agricultural sector.

11. Initial activities under a regional project on eradication of the tropical bout tick in the Caribbean are being carried out in Anguilla, Montserrat, the United States Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands by FAO, in cooperation with CARICOM. In addition, UNDP has invited FAO to provide the services of an agricultural consultant for the Turks and Caicos Islands.

United Nations Children's Fund

12. The Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) approved a multi-island programme for the Eastern Caribbean, including, inter alia, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands, for the period 1988-1992, with available general resources of $US 2,250,000. Owing to the increased availability of general resources, the annual planning level has been doubled to $US 900,000 from 1991 onwards. The UNICEF programmes for Montserrat, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the British Virgin Islands cover projects in the fields of early childhood development, maternal and child health, nutrition, water and sanitation and women in development. Funds allocated for 1990 for those projects are distributed among the Territories as follows: Montserrat, $US 66,300; the Turks and Caicos Islands, $US 30,000; and the British Virgin Islands, $US 29,800.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

13. During the period under review, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) continued its programmes of assistance to Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Those projects related, inter alia, to the provision of scholarships, the restoration of historical sites, the upgrading of information facilities and the eradication of illiteracy. In 1990, UNESCO executed two extrabudgetary regional projects relating to technical and vocational education.

United Nations Population Fund

14. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) continued its programme of assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories in 1989-1991 within the UNDP framework. For Anguilla, estimated total assistance amounted to $US 18,552 and covered a family planning and family life educational services project. Under a CARICOM-executed project, Anguilla will receive technical assistance for its 1991 population and housing census. In addition, Anguilla received a fellowship to participate in a health education programme in Jamaica. In the British Virgin Islands, with the cooperation of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), UNFPA executed a family life and parent life education project, which ended in 1990. UNFPA is providing technical assistance for the 1991 population census for the Territory under a CARICOM-executed project. The total estimated assistance was $US 11,073. For the Cayman Islands, to supplement the amount from the subregional census project, UNFPA allocated $US 25,000. Complementary to the Government's national household survey capability programme undertaken with UNDP support, UNFPA is also planning to provide external technical advisory services and training. Assistance to Montserrat, estimated at $US 51,098, covered a UNFPA-funded, PAHO-executed project in family life education; youth development; a regional CARICOM-executed project in the conduct of its 1991 population and housing census; as well as a fellowship in health education. Estimated assistance to the Turks and Caicos Islands totalled $US 14,059, covering maternal and child health/family population policy and assistance to a national consultative meeting on population policy formulation.

International Labour Organisation

15. During 1989-1990, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), as executing agency, undertook the following individual territorial projects: establishment of a technical college and assistance in actuarial review of the social security fund in Montserrat; consultancy on amendments of the Labour Code and the actuarial review of social security funds in Anguilla; assistance in the establishment of a social security scheme and in the drafting of labour legislation in the Turks and Caicos Islands; and consultancy in manpower planning in the Cayman Islands. In addition, ILO participated in a number of multi-island projects, including a technical vocational training project in cooperation with UNDP and UNESCO, as well as an exercise regarding the harmonization of labour legislation in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States for Montserrat, the British Virgin Islands and Anguilla.

International Civil Aviation Organization

16. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) continued to provide assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to enabling them to be self-reliant in international civil aviation. Assistance includes that provided by the regional offices of ICAO in the implementation of the Regional Air Navigation Plan, which identifies essential air navigation facilities and services required for international civil aviation, and assistance provided through the ICAO Technical Cooperation Programme.

17. Renewed efforts must be made to secure an increased flow of funds. Bearing in mind the need for maximum flexibility, the involved institutions should take steps to remove any existing constraints or difficulties so as to ensure the availability of the additional resources required. The role of the executive heads of the institutions concerned is of special importance. In keeping with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 45/18 and paragraph 11 of Council resolution 1990/60, the executive heads should formulate concrete proposals for consideration by the respective governing and legislative organs. At the same time, the agencies and organizations that have depended to a large extent on extrabudgetary sources for financing of assistance projects should continue to try to find ways of including or increasing provision in their regular budgets for projects for the peoples concerned.

18. The importance of strengthening this cooperation cannot but be stressed considering the need for the creation of conditions that would facilitate the exercise by the peoples of the Territories of their legitimate rights to self-determination and independence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

19. The President of the Council welcomes the continued initiative of UNDP in maintaining close links with other specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and in coordinating the activities of the agencies in extending assistance to the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. The active participation of the representatives of the Governments of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories at meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations have invariably contributed to the positive consideration given by those bodies to measures in support of the peoples of those Territories. The President is convinced that interactions must be encouraged so that the Territories may draw the maximum possible benefits through active participation in the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system. The close contacts have not only facilitated further increases in the volume and scope of assistance provided by the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system but also have enhanced the ability of agencies to respond more quickly and with greater flexibility to needs. In order to make maximum use of the available resources, the agencies and organizations should take further steps to strengthen existing measures and explore additional ways of coordination.

20. Subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its forty-sixth session and in conformity with such decisions as might be taken by the Council, the President of the Council shall continue to maintain close contact with the Chairmen of the Special Committee on the Situation with

regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Special Committee against Apartheid on matters raised in the present report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID

21. The President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid held consultations regarding the recent developments in South Africa and various actions taken by the international community since the second regular session of 1990 of the Council.

22. The Chairman of the Special Committee reviewed with the President of the Council decisions taken by the General Assembly during its forty-fifth session towards the eradication of apartheid. The Assembly, on 19 December 1990, adopted a total of eight resolutions on agenda item 34, entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". More importantly, the Assembly was able to maintain the consensus reached during the forty-fourth session and the sixteenth special session, by adopting an omnibus resolution entitled "International efforts to eradicate apartheid" (resolution 45/176 A). In that resolution, the Assembly provided an assessment of the situation in South Africa and the required role of the international community. The Assembly called on the South African authorities to foster the climate conducive to negotiations by taking a number of specific measures and by fully implementing the agreement reached so far between them and the African National Congress. Further, it encouraged all parties to participate fully in future broad-based negotiations while urging the South African regime to ensure effective and impartial action in dealing with the recurring violence which poses a threat to the negotiating process. In resolution 45/176 B, the Assembly reiterated its conviction that the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions by the Security Council under chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations remains the most appropriate and effective means to bring about a peaceful end to apartheid. In resolution 45/176 C, the Assembly expressed serious concern at the increasing number of violations of the mandatory arms embargo, particularly by those countries which surreptitiously continue to trade in arms with South Africa, and urged all States to adopt strict legislation relating to the implementation of the arms embargo and to prohibit the supply to South Africa of all products, in particular computers and communication equipment, technological skills and services, including military intelligence, that could be used for military and nuclear industry in that country. It urged the Security Council to consider immediate steps to ensure the scrupulous and full implementation and effective monitoring of the arms embargo and to implement the recommendations of the report of the Committee established under resolution 421 (1977) concerning appropriate measures against those States violating the mandatory arms embargo. In resolution 45/176 D, the Assembly reiterated its demand that Israel desist from and terminate forthwith all forms of collaboration with South Africa, particularly in the military and nuclear fields, and requested the Special Committee against Apartheid to continue to monitor the relations between South Africa and Israel and keep them under constant review and report to the General Assembly and the Security Council as appropriate. In resolution 45/176 E, the Assembly authorized the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate and acting with the support services of the United Nations Centre against Apartheid, to remain the focal point of the

international campaign against apartheid and continue monitoring closely developments in South Africa and the actions of the international community, particularly regarding the need for maintaining pressure on South Africa as called for in the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa (Assembly resolution S-16/1, annex).

23. In resolution 45/176 F, the Assembly commended the proposed model law for the effective enforcement of its embargo against South Africa and urged the Security Council to take action under appropriate provisions of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure an effective embargo on the supply and shipping of oil and petroleum products to South Africa. It requested all States to adopt effective measures and/or legislation to broaden the scope of the oil embargo in order to ensure the complete cessation of the supply and shipping of oil and petroleum products to South Africa. In resolution 45/176 G, the Assembly called upon all Governments and sporting organizations to maintain the sports boycott of South Africa until profound and irreversible changes take place in South Africa. In resolution 45/176 H, the Assembly welcomed the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the suspension of executions and the unbanning of a number of political organizations and appealed for generous contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and direct contributions to voluntary agencies engaged in rendering assistance to the victims of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa.

24. The Chairman of the Special Committee reviewed with the President of the Council the action taken by the South African authorities, as well as measures adopted by Governments and intergovernmental organizations towards the implementation of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa. In that connection, the Chairman noted that the ongoing political process in South Africa might not always be smooth, and that open debate would be essential as it would help define not only the basic aspects of the post-apartheid society but also the incipient elements of what a true democratic system could be. He noted that some setbacks had already occurred that were related to the unacceptable levels of violence prevailing in South Africa and observed that violence had been created in part by the South African regime's neglect or design and failure to take necessary and impartial measures to bring violence under control and to punish perpetrators. The Chairman was therefore of the view that the international community had the duty to maintain pressure on South Africa during the entire process of negotiations and until a new constitution establishing a non-racial democracy in South Africa was adopted.

25. The Chairman of the Special Committee informed the President of the Council that the decision by the European Community to lift a number of sanctions against South Africa was counter-productive since neither the conditions for negotiations in a peaceful environment nor agreement exist on the mechanism to be employed for the preparation of a new constitution. He noted that there were also many political prisoners still in jail and that most political exiles have not yet been allowed to return to South Africa. He was of the opinion, however, that the decision by the African National Congress and the Pan African National Congress to formally take steps towards a patriotic front was most propitious.

26. Considering the overall progress made in South Africa, the Chairman informed the President that the views of the Special Committee were duly reflected in its interim annual report, called for by the General Assembly in resolution 45/176 E. He noted that limited progress has been achieved in removing the obstacles to negotiations aimed at establishing a non-racial and democratic system in South Africa. Finally, the Chairman was of the view that, while the recent repeal of certain apartheid laws, in particular the Population Registration Act, were milestones on the road towards the total elimination of apartheid, major efforts in changing attitudes and practices and additional legal measures would be required to give substance to the repeal and to address racial segregation, which is still rampant in South Africa. The Chairman expressed the hope that the efforts made so far by the South African authorities were indicative of their willingness to embark on a sustained and speedy effort towards establishing a non-racial and democratic society. Apartheid, he noted, would hopefully be eliminated when a new constitution was in place in South Africa that guaranteed the most fundamental rights, including the right to vote. He reiterated the need for the international community to maintain concerted pressure on South Africa until apartheid was totally eliminated.